

CONGRATULATING KURT ZWIKL

HON. RYAN A. COSTELLO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a community leader who has worked tirelessly to transform the Schuylkill River Heritage Area into a prime destination for outdoor recreation as well as a definitive source of historical information about the significance of this scenic waterway, which flows from the heart of Pennsylvania's anthracite coal region to the City of Philadelphia.

Kurt Zwikl has spent the past 12 years as executive director of the Schuylkill River Heritage Area. He retired from the Pottstown-based non-profit organization on June 30th.

Thanks to his ability to foster community partnerships and his tireless advocacy, Kurt has expanded the number of miles available to bikers and walkers along the Schuylkill River Trail. Eventually, families and residents will be able to enjoy a unified, 130-mile trail system stretching from Schuylkill County to Philadelphia.

A partnership with neighboring Montgomery County Community College enabled the Schuylkill River Heritage Area to open the River of Revolutions Interpretive Center in Pottstown in 2012.

Students from local schools and tourists from around the world can view exhibits and discover how the Schuylkill River has helped secure our independence, fueled our prosperity and inspired stewardship and a deep appreciation for preserving irreplaceable natural resources.

And earlier this month, nearly 200 outdoor enthusiasts paddled 112 miles from Schuylkill Haven Island to Philadelphia during the "Schuylkill River Soujourn." This is an event that has grown each year under Kurt's leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I want to express my gratitude for Kurt Zwikl's tremendous accomplishments as executive director of the Schuylkill River Heritage Area—all of which have improved the public's access to and appreciation of the river and reinvigorated community pride in this amazing natural resource.

IN HONOR OF CONCORD POLICE
SERGEANT BUCKY SIMPSON**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor former Concord Police Sergeant Richard Howard "Bucky" Simpson, who passed away peacefully on June 24, 2015.

Sergeant Bucky Simpson was born on July 31, 1942, in Charlotte, North Carolina. He is survived by his wife, Susan Phillips Simpson of Concord; his children, Chad D. Simpson of Concord; Phillip A. Simpson and his wife, Jane Blackley Simpson, of Harrisburg; and his grandson, Garrett Parker Simpson.

Bucky was a distinguished Army Vietnam veteran who received many awards including the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. As a Concord Police Sergeant, he worked for 17 years

as a Juvenile Officer and helped implement the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program in Cabarrus County, North Carolina.

One of Bucky's greatest qualities was his ability to teach and help youth in the community. Bucky supervised the hiring of school crossing guards who were known as "Bucky's Angels," and he patiently taught Bike Safety and BB Gun Safety Training to hundreds of kids at Camp Spencer. He also faithfully served on the Board of Directors at the Boys and Girls Club where he once received the "Father of the Year Award." For his continued dedication to helping youth in Concord, Bucky once received the L.T. Williams Award from the North Carolina Officers' Association for being the "Most Outstanding Juvenile Officer" of the year.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in celebrating former Concord Police Sergeant Bucky Simpson's life as a dedicated husband, father, and public servant.

IN HONOR OF MIKE ROOS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the long and distinguished public service career of our friend, Mr. Mike Roos. I had the great honor of working with Mike as colleagues in the California State Assembly along with several other current and former members of this House. I count myself fortunate to call him a good friend.

In 1999, Mike founded Mike Roos and Company, a public affairs firm that Mike shaped specializes in government relations, corporate issues management, media relations, and ballot measure campaigns. Prior to establishing Mike Roos and Company, Mike served as President and CEO of the Los Angeles Alliance for Restructuring Now, a coalition of business and civic leaders from the Los Angeles Area dedicated to implementing systemic reform and restructuring within the Los Angeles Unified School District. His significant efforts in this capacity have undoubtedly changed countless lives of children in the Los Angeles area for the better.

Mike's distinguished Assembly career began in 1977. He earned the love and respect of both his Democratic and Republican colleagues. His own caucus chose him Majority Floor Leader in his second term, a position he held until his 1987 election as Assembly Speaker Pro Tempore. He had the reputation as a genuine legislator—someone who used the power of lawmaking to make the lives of the People of California better. Perhaps his most well known achievement is the Mello Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982 and the Roberti-Roos Weapons Control Act of 1989. Mike authored the strictest laws to date protecting the confidentiality of HIV patients, as well as the law creating the Alternative Test Sites Program, which established centers where individuals could receive free, anonymous testing for the AIDS antibody. He consistently fought for a better education for all, authoring legislation prohibiting sex discrimination in California's educational institutions.

Prior to his election to the State Assembly, Mike served as the Executive Director of the

Coro Foundation, a leadership training program for future leaders in public service. Thanks to his substantial experience and insight, he continues to be a valuable consultant to civic and educational organizations, speaking on topics ranging from education reform to the legislative process in California politics.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in thanking Mike for his years of service on behalf of the people of California. I know he looks forward to spending time with his family, including his four daughters Shelby, Melissa, Catherine, and Caroline. I wish him nothing but success and happiness.

CONGRATULATING CAMDENTON
HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS BRONZE
MEDAL AWARD**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Camdenton High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Camdenton High School for a job well done.

RECOGNIZING THE PRINCIPAL OF
THE YEAR AWARD NOMINEE FOR
PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY PUBLIC
SCHOOLS**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Principal of the Year Award nominee for Prince William County Public Schools.

The Principal of the Year for Prince William County will receive the Distinguished Educational Leadership Award from the Washington Post. Nominated principals must demonstrate the ability to:

Manage effectively
Demonstrate and encourage creativity and innovation

Foster cooperation between the school and the community

Maintain a continuing dialogue with students and parents as well as faculty and staff

Keep abreast of developments in the field of education

Encourage team spirit

Demonstrate leadership and exemplify commitment

Continue to play an active role in the classroom

Maintain their position as principal throughout the 2015–16 school year

Participate in the five day 2015 DELA Seminar to be held July 2015

I would like to extend my personal congratulations to the 2014–2015 nominee, Joyce Stockton of Philip Michael Pennington Traditional School, for Prince William County Schools, Principal of the year award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending Ms. Stockton, Principal of the Year Award nominee for Prince William County Public Schools, and in thanking her for her dedication to leadership in our school system. Her continued service will ensure that students of Prince William County are provided with a world class education in a more vibrant learning community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF NORTHWEST
FLORIDA'S BELOVED
CLARENCE OLIN MARLER

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and legacy of Northwest Florida's beloved Clarence Olin Marler. On July 9, 2015, Destin, Florida—the “World's Luckiest Fishing Village”—and the recreational boating community suffered a great loss with his passing.

Olin Marler was born in Destin on October 10, 1934, to the late Clarence L. Marler and Gladys Marler. A proud Northwest Floridian, he also pursued his higher education in the area, graduating from the University of West Florida with a Bachelor of Science in Management. It was during his time working as a defense contractor with Vitro Services, now known as BAE Systems, that Olin began his career as a Charter Boat Captain, purchasing his first charter boat in 1965. As a result of his dedication and hard work, what began as a small weekend business, Olin Marler Charters would flourish into one of the oldest and most successful charter boat operations in the State of Florida, and over the years, Olin helped thousands of locals and tourists experience the God-given natural beauty of the Eastern Gulf of Mexico.

To some, Olin Marler will be remembered as a legendary boat captain; to others, he will be remembered for his great stories and his love of fishing. To his friends and family, however, he will forever be remembered as a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. While fishing and the smiles on his customers' faces brought Olin great happiness, his greatest blessing and love was his family.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize the life of Clarence Olin Marler. Without question, his contributions to the Northwest Florida economy will be felt for years to come; however, more important was the joy Olin brought to his customers, friends, and family, and the legacy he leaves behind. My wife Vicki and I extend our heartfelt prayers and condolences to his wife, Donna; sons, Greg and Andrew; daughter, Hannah; grandchildren, Caden Lee Olin Marler, Mallisa Marler Scott and Jacob Marler; great-grandchildren; and the entire Marler family.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, July 10 is a special day to me. It marks the day of my first floor speech as a member of the United States House of Representatives, and I rise to recognize and celebrate two great men who have been influential in my life. They are John Forrest Kelly, my oldest son, who was born on this date in 1995, and my father, John M. Kelly, who was born on July 9, 1941.

I rise in recognition and honor of my son, John Forrest Kelly. John Forrest, or JFK as we commonly refer to him, was born in Tupelo, Mississippi to Sheila Stephens Kelly and me. John Forrest was the first grandchild for both his paternal and maternal lines. JFK is an extremely smart and articulate man. He graduated from Saltillo High School in 2013. During his high school career, he achieved high academic success. He was a well-liked and well-rounded student-athlete. He played one year of football and started for the Saltillo High School Tigers Baseball Team as an outfielder. After high school, he received academic scholarships and is currently a business major at the University of Mississippi; he is a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity. John Forrest is an extremely bright young man, and I am confident of a bright future in whatever career path he chooses. I am extremely proud of him and his two siblings Morgan Grace (age 16) and Jackson Trent (age 9).

I rise in remembrance and honor of my father, John M. Kelly. John, commonly referred to as Big John, Papa John, Top, 1SG Kelly, or Papaw, was born on July 9, 1941 in Newton County, Mississippi to Madison Houston Kelly and Ludie Irene Robinson Kelly. The youngest child, his parents were small farmers in Newton County, Mississippi. John excelled in sports, playing basketball, baseball, and football for both Union and Decatur High Schools. He graduated in 1959 from Decatur High School. On June 3, 1961, he married Barbara Carolyn Mott Kelly. Married for 44 years, Big John and Barbara had three children: Lisa Renee Kelly Carley, and two sons, JOHN TRENT KELLY and James Kevin Kelly. With Barbara and his daughter Lisa by his side, Big John passed away from lung cancer on February 7, 2005, while both of his sons were deployed to Iraq as members of the 150th Engineer Battalion, 155th Brigade Combat Team.

Big John was a loving and caring father and a great provider for his family. John started out on the line in the furniture industry. Through hard work and intelligence, he worked his way up to managing furniture plants. He was a foreman, supervisor, superintendent and held many other leadership positions throughout his life. John always made time for family and community, coaching his sons, daughter and others in Union, Mississippi little league baseball until they went to high school.

In 1959, he joined the Mississippi Army National Guard until his retirement in 2001 at the mandatory retirement age of 60. He served with both his sons during his tenure in the National Guard, including mobilizing in 1990 for Desert Shield/Storm in the 134th Combat En-

gineer Company, 155th Armored Brigade. During Desert Storm, John was a Staff Sergeant and Engineer Squad Leader, I was an Engineer Second Lieutenant and Platoon Leader, and Kevin was a Specialist 4 and Engineer Soldier. John was First Sergeant for three of the four companies of the 150th Combat Engineer Battalion and retired as a Master Sergeant and Operations Sergeant in the 150th Engineer Battalion, 155th Heavy Brigade Combat Team.

Big John was always a caring and giving individual and was loved by most people who knew him. He was never too busy to help anyone in need. I have often said during my life if I am half the man my father was I will be a great man. He was a great husband to my wonderful mother, Barbara. He was a great inspiration and role model for me and my siblings and the best father and grandfather a man could ever ask to have.

Happy Birthday to my son, John Forrest Kelly, and to my father, John “Big John” “Daddy” Kelly. I thank and honor them both for being such a great influence in my life. I love them both with all my heart and soul. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to acknowledge and honor two very important men in my life, one with a great past, the other with a promising future.

STUDENT SUCCESS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5) to support State and local accountability for public education, protect State and local authority, inform parents of the performance of their children's schools, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 5, the “Student Success Act,” which would harm the education of our nation's youth.

I thank Chairman KLINE, Ranking Member SCOTT, and all the members of the Committee on Education and the Workforce for their work to improve education for our nation's children.

Unfortunately, the bill before the House for consideration, should it become law, would harm our most vulnerable children, including those who attend urban and rural schools, and special needs children who need equal access to an excellent education.

In my 18th District of Texas, over 30% of students in the Houston Independent School district (HISD) live below the poverty line.

H.R. 5 threatens to cut over \$17 million from HISD, one of the largest reductions in Title I funding in the state of Texas.

I cannot stand by and support legislation that takes funds and resources away from children who are already struggling to meet their own basic needs.

This bill allows Title I “portability” which would allow states to redirect funds away from high concentrations of poverty and siphon monies to low-poverty schools.

This proposal, if enacted, would allow states to redirect funds away from districts with the highest concentrations of poverty, and into